PERSONNEL INVESTIGATION
2086964
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IAB CASE NUMBER: **IV2086964**
SUBJECT: **Rocky E. Teel, Deputy Sheriff** [redacted]
INVESTIGATORS: **Stacy West, Lieutenant**

Investigative Summary

Complainant [redacted] alleges that on January 20, 2003, Subject Rocky Teel [redacted] ran her license plate in violation of Department policy.

Complainant [redacted]. Subject Rocky Teel is a deputy assigned to Mira Loma Detention Center (MLDC).

Complainant [redacted] states in August 2002, she filed an "Order to Show Cause" to request an increase in child support from Subject Teel. In October, 2002, the court increased the child support from $547 to $896. However, in December she only received a check for $547 from the Auditor Controller; the court order stipulates that the new amount of $896 per month was to commence on December 1, 2002. Complainant [redacted] asserts that she made numerous attempts, via e-mail to collect the increased child support informally. Her attempts failed. On the advice of [redacted]' a Family Law Facilitator, she had Subject Teel served with and "Order to Show Cause." On April 7, 2003 Subject Teel filed a "Responsive Declaration to Order to Show Cause or Notice of Motion" In his declaration he states, "I went to work at [redacted] hours that day [February 20, 2003] and ran the license plate number" **(EXHIBIT A)**.

On Monday, April 14, 2003 Complainant [redacted] sent an e-mail to Dennis H. Burns, Richard L. Thanstrom, and Gary Sinclair requesting that Subject Teel's conduct be investigated **(EXHIBIT B)**.

> **NOTE**: Complainant [redacted] e-mail incorrectly identifies March 20, 2003 as the Service of Process date. It should be February 20, 2003.

Complainant [redacted] asserts that the license plate Subject Teel referenced in his declaration is on a truck that belongs to [redacted] Subject Teel knows the truck belongs to [redacted] and therefore he had no reason to run the license plate. Complainant [redacted] explained that in October 2002, she and Subject Teel had a court appearance. After court, Subject Teel asked to talk to her about solving their issues and he appeared to "know everything" about her life. He knew she bought [redacted] a truck for [redacted] and knew "all kinds of things about her that was really kind of frightening." Complainant [redacted] asserts that Subject Teel has a history of stalking her and he has run license plates of men she has dated in past.

Complainant [redacted] stated that [redacted], served Subject Teel copies of an Order to Show Cause, Application for Order and Supporting Declaration, and Blank Responsive Declaration on February 20, 2003. He filed it with the court on February 21, 2003. A copy of the Proof of Personal Service indicates that Subject Teel was served on February 20, 2003 at 9:00 A.M. at [redacted]

(EXHIBIT C).

NOTE: Complainant [redacted] stated that when [redacted] served Subject Teel, he erroneously gave him a blank document.

Subject Teel stated that his Responsive Declaration to Order to Show Cause or Notice of Motion is an abbreviated version of a 6-page outline he prepared that contains information the court shouldn't be aware of such as his conversation with the Captain and other events that led up prior to the incident on February 20, 2003. The contents are pretty much the same; some of the dates were left out because [of] personal information **(EXHIBIT D)**.

Subject Teel asserts that on the morning of February 20, 2003 after he got off work, he noticed an off white or gray Toyota Tundra with a round front end following him. There were two individuals seated in the truck but he could not see who they were because the truck was following him less than a car length behind his vehicle. He believed at that time, that the driver was going through some kind of road rage. Subject Teel said he made numerous attempts to evade the truck and initially decided to lead the truck to the Lancaster Sheriff's Station. At one point during the chase, he noticed [redacted] sitting as the passenger and the driver of the truck was waiving papers at him.

Subject Teel stated that he decided to drive home and call the Palmdale Court Family Law Facilitator's Office. The Facilitator confirmed that Complainant [redacted] had filed papers. At approximately 0840 hours, the driver of the truck came to his front door, started ringing the doorbell, yelling for him to come out of the house and challenging him to fight. Subject Teel looked out the front window and saw the truck parked sideways across his driveway blocking his garage door. Standing in front of the truck was [redacted] He wrote down the front license plate number [redacted] Subject Teel said he ignored the persons repeated attempt to serve him and went to sleep. At approximately 1230 hours he woke up and went out the front door. The driver of the vehicle and [redacted] were gone, but he found court papers tucked into the door jam. The papers were a Proof of Personal Service, signed by [redacted] dated February 19, 2003 at 11:00 P.M. The service address listed was [redacted] and an Order to Show Cause filed by [redacted] for back child support, and another Order to Show Cause, Findings on Arrears, Order for Repayment dated January 23, 2003 **(EXHIBIT E)**.

Subject Teel stated the problem with the Proof of Service is that it is dated the night of February 19, 2003 and the location is his home. February 19th was the night he was at work; therefore, the document was falsified. Subject Teel said that he believed the date and time written on the document was changed to reflect a different date and time, in order to cover up the incident.

NOTE: The copy of Proof of Service submitted by Subject Teel is different than the copy submitted by Complainant [redacted] with regard to date, and time of service (**EXHIBIT E**).

Subject Teel stated that after he spoke to [redacted] he decided to file a criminal complaint against the driver of the vehicle for assault with a deadly weapon, and challenging to fight. Later that evening (February 20, 2003) between 1900 and 1930 hours, he ran the license plate, that he wrote down earlier, on the Sheriff's Department JDIC machine. His reason for running the plate was to verify the registered owner of the truck for the criminal complaint. Subject Teel said he assumed the truck belonged to [redacted] the individual who attempted to serve him. When the license plate number came back to [redacted], then he assumed it was probably [redacted] even though he has never seen [redacted] in it. Subject Teel stated that after he spoke to [redacted] he and [redacted] decided to handle the matter through the Family Law Court because the incident could potentially put [redacted] in a suspect situation.

On June 13, 2003 the Department Data Systems Bureau was contacted and asked to conduct a JDIC/DMV search on license [redacted] The inquiry revealed the following: A DMV query was conducted on February 20, 2003 at 1956 hours from Mira Loma [redacted]. The personal identification (I.D.) number entered in the request was [redacted] A second query was conducted in association with NCIC (National Crime Information Center) with the same I.D. number. The I.D. number is assigned to [redacted] (**EXHIBIT F**). [redacted] is a deputy assigned to MLDC. [redacted] was not on duty that day; [redacted]. (**EXHIBIT G**).



County of Los Angeles
Sheriff's Department Headquarters
4700 Ramona Boulevard
Monterey Park, California 91754-2169



LEROY D. BACA, SHERIFF

January 23, 2004

Deputy Rocky Teel, #[redacted]
[redacted]

Dear Deputy Teel:

You are hereby notified that it is the intention of the Sheriff's Department to suspend you without pay from your position of Deputy Sheriff, Item No. 2708A, with this Department for a period of six (6) days.

An investigation under File Number IAB 2086964, conducted by Mira Loma Detention Center, coupled with your own statements, has established the following:

1. That in violation of Manual of Policy and Procedures Sections 3-01/100.45, Use of Communications Equipment and/or 3-01/100.35, False Information in Records, on or about February 20, 2003, you used a Department JDIC Terminal at Mira Loma Detention Center to conduct a record check on a vehicle license plate and used [redacted] employee number [[redacted]], instead of your own.

Prior to determining this disciplinary action, I have thoroughly reviewed the incident and your record with this Department.

You have the right to grieve this disciplinary action within ten (10) days of receipt of this letter. Your grievance procedures may be found in your classification's negotiated Memorandum of Understanding.

Failure to respond to this Letter of Intent within ten (10) business days will be considered a waiver of your right to grieve and will result in the imposition of this discipline indicated herein. You may receive a copy of the material on which the discipline is based by contacting Angela

You may receive a copy of the material on which the discipline is based by contacting Angela Vargas of the Internal Affairs Bureau at (323) 890-5313, and arranging an appointment during the ten (10) day period in which you may respond.

The Sheriff's Department reserves the right to amend and/or add to this letter.

Sincerely,

LEROY D. BACA, SHERIFF

Original Signed

Robert G. Sinclair, Captain
Commander, Mira Loma Detention Center

RGS:EBS:av

c: Advocacy Unit
Employee Relations Unit
John L. Scott, Chief, Custody Operations Division
Internal Affairs Bureau
Office of Independent Review (OIR)
(File # IAB 2086964)



County of Los Angeles
Sheriff's Department Headquarters
4700 Ramona Boulevard
Monterey Park, California 91754-2169



LEROY D. BACA, SHERIFF

August 21, 2004

Deputy Rocky Teel, [redacted]
[redacted]

Dear Deputy Teel:

On January 23, 2004, you were served with a Letter of Intention, indicating your right to respond to the Sheriff's Department's pending disciplinary action against you, as reported under File Number IAB 2086964. You were also advised of your right to review the material on which the discipline was based.

You did exercise your right to respond. However, after review and consideration of the response submitted to support your position, Department executives determined that the recommended discipline is appropriate.

You are hereby notified that you are suspended without pay from your position of Deputy Sheriff, Item No. 2708A, with this Department for a period of six (6) days effective August 22, 2004, through August 27, 2004.

An investigation under File Number IAB 2086964, conducted by Mira Loma Detention Center, coupled with your own statements, has established the following:

1. That in violation of Manual of Policy and Procedures Sections 3-01/100.45, Use of Communications Equipment and/or 3-01/100.35, False Information in Records, on or about February 20, 2003, you used a Department JDIC Terminal at Mira Loma Detention Center to conduct a record check on a vehicle license plate and used [redacted] employee number [redacted] instead of your own.

Prior to imposing this disciplinary action, I have thoroughly reviewed the incident and your record with this Department.

You will hereby take notice that any future acts of misconduct may result in more severe disciplinary action.

You may appeal the Department's action in this matter pursuant to Rule 18.01(c) of the Civil Service Rules.

The Sheriff's Department reserves the right to amend and/or add to this letter.

Sincerely,

LEROY D. BACA, SHERIFF

Original Signed

Robert G. Sinclair, Captain
Commander, Mira Loma Detention Center

Note: Attached for your convenience are excerpts of the applicable areas of the Manual of Policy and Procedures and Civil Service Rules.

RGS:EBS:av

c: Advocacy Unit
John L. Scott, Chief, Custody Operations Division
Internal Affairs Bureau
Personnel Administration
Office of Independent Review (OIR)
Mira Loma Detention Center/Unit Personnel File